

**From:** [Patricia Butler](#)  
**To:** [Waage, Melissa](#)  
**Subject:** 072914 Clean Water Protection Rule Media Report - 19 items including more from the American Sustainable Business Council and from Sen Johanns...  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 29, 2014 10:24:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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July 29, 2014

## **News Coverage**

**North Coast farmers face new state, federal water rules**, North Bay (CA) Business Journal, 07/28/14.

The EPA and Corps have said the changes proposed to the WOTUS definition in the 1972 Clean Water Act are meant to clarify where their jurisdiction starts and stops, following Supreme Court rulings in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* in 2001 that "isolated" water is excluded and *Rapanos v. United States* in 2006 that called for case-by-case determinations of "nexus" with WOTUS. The comment period on the rule ended July 21, and the goal for completing the rulemaking is next April.

**EPA's proposed rule on streams and wetlands has Rice County farmers concerned**, Faribault (MN)

Daily News, 07/28/14. Creeks, ditches and streams may only see water following a heavy rain, but in light of a proposed rule change, farmers are concerned that the Environmental Protection Agency may soon have authority to regulate those waterways. Under the Clean Water Act, the EPA has authority of navigable waterways. However, the proposed rule would include smaller waterways farther upstream, such as creeks, streams and ditches. The EPA says the proposed rule was introduced to clarify protection for streams and wetlands under the Clean Water Act.

**Regulations: Farm Bill: Ag Economy: Biofuels: and, Climate – Tuesday**, Farm Policy, 07/29/14. [Jerry](#)

[Hagstrom](#) reported earlier this week at National Journal Online that, "Is it worth the effort for an Environmental Protection Agency administrator in a Democratic administration to meet with her farm, ranch, and Republican critics? "Or should she stay safely among her environmental and conservation supporters in Washington and the coastal cities and just push ahead?"

## **Opinion**

**Clean Water is Good for Business**, U.S. News, 07/28/14. David Brodwin: Pretty much everyone agrees that the EPA has always had authority to limit pollution of America's "navigable" year-round waterways. But people disagree about the EPA's jurisdiction over other waterways. What about small streams that are not themselves navigable but which drain into navigable waters? What about seasonal rivers? (In the southwest, where most rainfall comes in winter months, many rivers are seasonal.) What about shallow wetlands that drain into navigable rivers? David Brodwin is a cofounder and board member of American Sustainable Business Council.

**EPA's Murky Water Rule**, The Nebraska Signal, (op-ed), 07/28/14. Sen. Mike Johanns: A far-reaching water proposal by the Environmental protection Agency (EPA) would open the floodgates to expensive permits and compliance costs for a variety of industries and individual land owners. And as concerned citizens weigh in on the proposal before it is finalized, EPA's unwillingness to provide details has muddied the water on its downstream implications. Mike Johanns represents Nebraska in the U.S. Senate.

**Protect Wetlands**, The (Charleston, SC) Post and Courier, (letter to the editor), 07/29/14. Jean Everett, Ph.D.: Re Rep. Samuel Rivers' commentary in the July 21 Post and Courier titled "Federal water rules

hang S.C. out to dry": There is absolutely nothing vague about the terms he mentioned that are used to protect our wetlands and regulate their development. Wetlands connected to U.S. waters are frequently very simple to delineate, even more so with modern technology. I call for Lowcountry residents to contact our agencies and our representatives and ask them to counter ignorance and greed with facts, and to protect the Clean Water Act. Dr Jean Everett lives in Charleston.

**New EPA rules are a blunt instrument**, The (Oneonta, NY) Daily Star, (letter to the editor), 07/29/14. Duane Martin: I want to believe the EPA officials who have said publicly that farms will not be impacted. Unfortunately, that is not the way the rule change reads. Instead, there are many standard farm practices that are not exempted. The same goes for homeowners looking to make changes on their property or state, county and town highway departments that may need to get a federal permit to do ditch maintenance work. It is the written rule in black and white that will ultimately govern our farms, not the public relations spin of the EPA. Duane Martin is president of the Delaware County Farm Bureau.

**Must not waster our water by polluting it**, San Jose (CA) Mercury News, (letter to the editor), 07/29/14. Jonathan D'Souza: The bill slashes funding for the EPA by \$700 million. It cuts the Land and Water Conservation Fund to one-fifth its authorized level. It blocks efforts to curb global warming pollution and to restore full Clean Water Act protections to all California's waterways. Sixty-six percent of California's streams are at risk of pollution, including those feeding into San Francisco Bay. Joshua D-Souza is a volunteer with Environment California, Oakland.

## **Blogs/Social Media**

**New EPA Land Grab, Complete Control Over All Private Land in America**, National Gun Forum blog, 07/28/14. Anywhere in America where it rains or where water collects or through which water moves will now, according to this new rule change they are implementing, be under their control. Not because Congress or the people give them that authority or jurisdiction, but simply because they are seizing the power. It is just another component of the illegitimate tyranny which is oppressing the American people.

**Idaho Update**, Dairyline blog, 07/28/14. "The EPA has obviously opened up a hornet's nest if you're reading or listening to anything that's going on with waters of the U.S.," he said. The good news is there is a lot of national legislative support for agriculture. He says it's important for producers and other agriculture industry professionals to be involved in the ongoing comment period. Earlier this month, several agriculture groups led by the National Milk Producers Federation asked EPA to withdraw its "interpretive rule concerning Clean Water Act permit exemptions for certain farming activities near wetlands. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers released the rule earlier this year at the same time as their proposal to define "Waters of the U.S." Comments on the definition can be submitted until Oct. 20, 2014.

**Environmental Protection Agency Admin Calls Ag's Waters Rule Concerns 'Ludicrous,'** Farm Futures blog, 07/28/14. U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy recently made a trip to Missouri where she hosted a press conference and called the concerns of producers in agriculture pertaining to the proposed definition of waters of the United States "ludicrous." The National Cattlemen's Beef Association Environmental Counsel, Ashley McDonald, has produced an interesting response to McCarthy's waters of the U.S. comments. It is worth reading.

**Clarity Sought On EPA's Clean Water Act Proposal**, 07/28/14. The National Farmers Union and American Farm Bureau Federation raise concerns over what bodies of water will fall under federal jurisdiction if the proposed rule is implemented as is. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROd8O6xXP5k>



Could you really need a **Clean Water Act** permit to plant a tree? Stop the WOTUS rule.  
[#landscapeadvocacy](#) [ow.ly/zpqIA...](#)



**ISFaith In Crew** [@ISFaithInCrew](#) 49m

How Frustration And Inaction Color EPA's Efforts To Enforce The **Clean Water Act** [huff.to/1Aj8RPI](#)  
via [@HuffPostGreen](#) [@IS\\_Foundation](#)



**Environment Illinois** [@EnvironmentIL](#) 17h

The Salt Creek is one of the many Illinois waterways that we are striving to protect through our **Clean Water Act**... [fb.me/3eeBgN178](#)



**Pennsylvania Chamber** [@PACChamber](#) 21h

New proposed EPA rule on the **Clean Water Act** could lead to confusion, unnecessary burdens on business. Read more: [bit.ly/1tSTjgP](#)



**Dan Fagin** [@danfagin](#) 28m

Terrific [@NaveenaSivam](#) [@ProPublica](#) piece on [#EPA](#) catching flak for finally trying to enforce [#cleanwateract](#). [\\_propublica.org/article/under-\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) [#proud](#)



**Environment Illinois** [@EnvironmentIL](#) 1h

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**Dominick Mond** [@NJNLADirector](#) 2h

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